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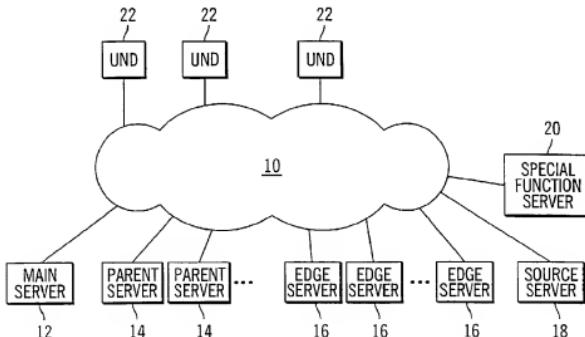
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(54) Title: SYSTEM AND PROCESS FOR DELIVERY OF CONTENT OVER A NETWORK



(57) **Abstract:** Network systems and processes for delivery of relatively large electronic content items and/or a relatively large number of content items. In one example, a movie rental system delivers movie files to customers across the Internet. System network architecture includes three or more layers of servers. A main server supports a user interface. Edge servers are distributed throughout a service region in which the system provides content delivery services to recipient processors. Parent servers, spaced across the service region, support edge servers. Each content item available through the service is distributed from the main server to each parent server for storage. Parent servers distribute content to edges servers, pursuant to instructions from the main server or requests from the edge servers. The main server receives requests for content items from recipient processors and directs recipient processors to edge servers for obtaining requested content items. The main server also authenticates licenses and publishes rules for the distribution of content items.

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